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law. Were it overruled and the mortgagee whose claim is barred allowed to maintain ejectment, as contended for by Professor Kales, there can be little doubt that the legislature would not long allow Section 11 of the Illinois Statute of Limitations to be thus nullified.

Except, however, this possible leaning toward useless discussion of settled questions, the book offers little room for adverse criticism. Occasionally inconsistencies may be pointed out; for example, in § 2 A it is stated in the text that entry is necessary before action on breach of condition subsequent, while § 30 A, which is referred to in the note, lays down an exactly opposite rule. So, too, in certain instances distinctions are made which would be difficult to apply as practical working rules. Such are the distinctions taken in § 260 as to what is necessary to make a purchaser *dominus* of the property. As a whole, however, the book is thoughtful, scholarly, and accurate. As the ground which it covers is entirely new, it is remarkable that in general it should present so few points of attack. It has further the added advantage of notes which contain a full collection of all the Illinois decisions on the points involved. This alone would be sufficient to give it great practical value to every Illinois lawyer, while the analysis of the decisions in the text raise its usefulness far above that of even the most complete digest.

R. M.

A MANUAL RELATING TO SPECIAL VERDICTS AND SPECIAL FINDINGS BY JURIES. By George B. Clementson. St. Paul, Minn.: West Publishing Co. 1905. pp. lxi, 35. 8vo.

"At no period in its history has the petit jury been noted for modesty or diffidence, when not liable to be called to account"; and at this date, when the attain — that ancient instrument for effectually concentrating the minds of the jurors upon the facts of the case rather than upon the respective conditions of the parties — is no more, the practicing lawyer, especially if he appear for defendants in damage suits, must welcome any manual that clearly defines his privileges with respect to the only means of controlling the sympathy or prejudice of juries, namely, Special Interrogatories and the Special Verdict.

Such a manual Mr. Clementson has produced. After a delightful historical introduction, founded in part upon the treatise by the late Professor Thayer, comes a discussion of Special Interrogatories. The cases in which they may be submitted, their preparation, form, and requisites, are intelligently set forth, followed by an exposition of the effect of the responses of the jury. The rights of the respective parties and the prerogatives of the court at the various stages of the trial are fully explained; and for almost no proposition is one required to accept the *ipse dixit* of the author, the citation of authorities being commendably complete. The same plan is adopted in the treatment of Special Verdicts. A chapter on Special Verdicts in Criminal Cases completes the work. An appendix with a summary of all the present statutes on the subject, a good index, and a table of cases cited, make the volume convenient for ready reference.

Although the plan of the work is well conceived, the execution is somewhat faulty. For example, the different subdivisions overlap so that in many instances the same legal proposition is adduced and the same cases are cited under several different topics, with the result that one feels that the work might have been accomplished in shorter compass. The book professes to be only a manual, and the subject is not one which lends itself readily to philosophical treatment. It is perhaps for these reasons that the author has contented himself with presenting the law as it exists, in a treatise which he calls "a collection of fragments," and refrained from advancing his own theories. The statutes and decisions, however, differ so materially in many important respects that some well reasoned scheme for future legislation might opportunely have been suggested. Yet, though to the student these faults seem serious, to the practitioner they are slight; and it is for the benefit of the latter that the manual is published.

E. M. M.